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Sir:

This is a request for filing a ☐ continuation ☒ divisional, continuation-in-part under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 08/620,631 filed on March 22, 1996 of M. Angelopoulos for METHODS OF FABRICATING PLASTICIZED, ANTIPLASTICIZED AND CRYSTALLINE CONDUCTING POLYMERS AND PRECURSORS THEREOF.

1. ☐ As last amended, the title has been changed to _____.
2. ☐ As last amended, the name of applicant has been changed to _____.
3. ☒ Enclosed is ☐ a copy of the oath or declaration as filed in the prior application or ☒ a new oath or declaration.
4. ☒ The filing fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS AS FILED IN THIS APPLICATION	NUMBER FILED		NUMBER EXTRA		RATE		BASIC FEE
						=	\$760.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	45	-	20	=	25	X \$18.00	\$450.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	8	-	3	=	5	X \$78.00	\$390.00
<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS, (IF ANY)							=
TOTAL FILING FEE							= \$1,600.00

5. ☒ Charge any fees which may be required, except for the Issue Fee, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 09-0468.
6. ☐ Cancel in this application original Claims _____ of the prior application before calculating the filing fee.
7. ☒ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence: - This is a ☐ continuation ☒ divisional, continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/620,631, filed March 22, 1996.
8. ☐ Priority of application Serial No. _____, filed on _____ in _____ is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119.
9. ☐ The certified copy of the priority application has been filed in prior application Serial No. _____ filed _____.
10. ☐ An appointment of associates is enclosed.
11. ☒ Address all future communications to Daniel P. Morris, IBM Corporation, Intellectual Property Law Dept., P.O. Box 218, Yorktown Heights, N.Y. 10598.
12. ☐ A preliminary amendment to this application is enclosed.
13. ☐ Enter in this application the amendment under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 which was unentered in the prior application.

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**METHODS OF FABRICATING PLASTICIZED, ANTIPLASTICIZED AND
CRYSTALLINE CONDUCTING POLYMERS AND PRECURSORS THEREOF**

Cross Reference to Related Application

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/620,619 entitled, "PLASTICIZED, ANTIPLASTICIZED AND CRYSTALLINE CONDUCTING POLYMERS AND PRECURSORS THEREOF" and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/620,618 entitled, "POLYCRYSTALLINE CONDUCTING POLYMERS AND PRECURSORS THEREOF HAVING ADJUSTABLE MORPHOLOGY AND PROPERTIES", the teachings of which are incorporated herein by reference.

This application claims priority from Provisional Application Serial No. 60/007,688 filed November 29, 1995.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to methods of fabricating crystalline electrically conductive precursors and crystalline electrically conductive polymers thereof and applications thereof.

BACKGROUND

Electrically conductive organic polymers emerged in the 1970's as a new class of electronic materials. These materials have the potential of combining the electronic and magnetic properties of metals with the light weight, processing advantages, and physical and mechanical

properties characteristic of conventional organic polymers. Examples of electrically conducting polymers are polyparaphenylene vinylenes, polyparaphenylenes, polyanilines, polythiophenes, polyazines, polyfuranes, polythianaphthenes polypyrroles, polyselenophenes, poly-p-phenylene sulfides, polyacetylenes formed from soluble precursors, combinations thereof and blends thereof with other polymers and copolymers of the monomers thereof.

These polymers are conjugated systems which are made electrically conducting by doping. The doping reaction can involve an oxidation, a reduction, a protonation, an alkylation, etc. The non-doped or non-conducting form of the polymer is referred to herein as the precursor to the electrically conducting polymer. The doped or conducting form of the polymer is referred to herein as the conducting polymer.

Conducting polymers have potential for a large number of applications in such areas such as electrostatic charge/discharge (ESC/ESD) protection, electromagnetic interference (EMI) shielding, resists, electroplating, corrosion protection of metals, and ultimately metal replacements, i.e. wiring, plastic microcircuits, conducting pastes for various interconnection technologies (solder alternative), etc. Many of the above applications especially those requiring high current capacity have not yet been realized because the conductivity of the processible conducting polymers is not yet adequate for such applications.

To date, polyacetylene exhibits the highest conductivity of all the conducting polymers. The reason for this is that polyacetylene can be synthesized in a highly crystalline form (crystallinity as high as 90% has been achieved) (as reported in *Macromolecules*, 25, 4106, 1992). This highly crystalline polyacetylene has a conductivity on the order of 10^5 S/cm. Although this conductivity is comparable to that of copper, polyacetylene is not technologically applicable because it is a non-soluble, non-processible, and environmentally unstable polymer.

The polyaniline class of conducting polymers has been shown to be probably the most suited of such materials for commercial applications. Great strides have been made in making the material quite processable. It is environmentally stable and allows chemical flexibility which in turn allows tailoring of its properties. Polyaniline coatings have been developed and commercialized for numerous applications. Devices and batteries have also been constructed with this material. However, the conductivity of this class of polymers is generally on the low end of the metallic regime. The conductivity is on the order of 10^0 S/cm. Some of the other soluble conducting polymers such as the polythiophenes, poly-para-phenylenevinylenes exhibit conductivity on the order of 10^2 S/cm. It is therefore desirable to increase the conductivity of the soluble/processible conducting polymers, in particular the polyaniline materials.

The conductivity (σ) is dependent on the number of carriers (n) set by the doping level, the charge on the carriers (q) and on the interchain and intrachain mobility (μ) of the carriers.

$$\sigma = n q \mu$$

Generally, n (the number of carriers) in these systems is maximized and thus, the conductivity is dependent on the mobility of the carriers. To achieve higher conductivity, the mobility in these systems needs to be increased. The mobility, in turn, depends on the morphology of the polymer. The intrachain mobility depends on the degree of conjugation along the chain, presence of defects, and on the chain conformation. The interchain mobility depends on the interchain interactions, the interchain distance, the degree of crystallinity, etc. Increasing the crystallinity results in increased conductivity as exemplified by polyacetylene. To date, it has proven quite difficult to attain polyaniline in a highly crystalline state. Some crystallinity has been achieved by stretch orientation or mechanical deformation (A.G. MacDiarmid et al in Synth. Met. 55-57, 753). In these stretch-oriented systems, conductivity enhancements have

been observed. The conductivity enhancement was generally that measured parallel to the stretch direction. Therefore, the conductivity in these systems is anisotropic. It is desirable to achieve a method of controlling and tuning the morphology of polyaniline. It is desirable to achieve a method of controlling and tuning the degree of crystallinity and the degree of amorphous regions in polyaniline, which in turn provides a method of tuning the physical, mechanical, and electrical properties of polyaniline. It is further desirable to achieve highly crystalline and crystalline polyaniline and to achieve this in a simple and useful manner in order to increase the mobility of the carriers and, therefore, the conductivity of the polymer. It is also further desirable to achieve isotropic conductivity, that is conductivity not dependent on direction as with stretch-oriented polyanilines.

OBJECTS

It is an object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate electrically conducting polymer precursors and electrically conducting polymers having adjustable morphology.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate electrically conducting polymer precursors and electrically conducting polymers in which the degree of crystalline regions and the degree of amorphous regions is adjustable.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate electrically conducting polymer precursors and electrically conducting polymers having adjustable physical, mechanical, and electrical properties.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate a crystalline electrically conducting polymer precursor and crystalline conducting polymers.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate highly crystalline conducting polymer precursor and crystalline conducting polymers

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate an electrically conducting polymer that exhibits enhanced carrier mobility.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate an electrically conducting polymer which exhibits enhanced conductivity.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate an electrically conducting polymer which exhibits enhanced isotropic conductivity.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method to induce a plasticization effect in electrically conducting polymer precursors and electrically conducting polymers.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate an antiplasticization effect in electrically conducting polymer precursors and electrically conducting polymers.

It is another object of the present invention to add an additive to a precursor or an electrically conductive polymer to induce enhanced mobility.

It is another object of the present invention to add an additive to a precursor or an electrically conductive polymer to induce an enhanced degree of crystallinity.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate a precursor or electrically conductive polymer which has an enhanced degree of crystallinity without being stretch oriented.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate a precursor or electrically conductive polymer which has increased glass transition temperature.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate a precursor or electrically conductive polymer which has decreased glass transition temperature.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate a precursor or electrically conductive polymer which has enhanced mechanical properties.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a method to fabricate a precursor or electrically conductive polymer which has decreased mechanical properties.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A broad aspect of the present invention is a method of forming an admixture of a solvent, an additive and a polymer selected from the group consisting of a precursor to an electrically conductive polymer and a electrically conductive polymer wherein the solvent is removed or partially removed and the additive provides local mobility to the polymer to allow the polymer chains to tightly associate with one another to achieve a high crystalline state.

In a more particular aspect of the present invention is a method of forming an admixture of a solvent, an additive and a polymer selected from the group consisting of a precursor to an

electrically conductive polymer and an electrically conductive polymer wherein the solvent is removed or partly removed and the additive provides a plasticization effect.

In a more particular aspect of the present invention is a method of forming an admixture of a solvent, an additive and a polymer selected from the group consisting of a precursor to an electrically conductive polymer and an electrically conductive polymer wherein the solvent is removed or partly removed and the additive provides an antiplasticization effect.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Further objects, features, and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from a consideration of the following detailed description of the invention when read in conjunction with the drawings FIG's. in which:

Fig. 1 is a general formula for polyaniline in the non-doped or precursor form.

Fig. 2 is a general formula for a doped conducting polyaniline.

Fig. 3 is a general formula for the polysemiquinone radical cation form of doped conducting polyaniline.

Fig. 4 is a Gel Permeation Chromatograph (GPC) of polyaniline base in NMP (.1 %). GPC shows a trimodal distribution- A very high molecular weight fraction (approx. 12%) and a major peak having lower molecular weight.

Curve 5(a) is a Wide Angle X-Ray Scattering (WAXS) spectrum for a polyaniline base film processed from NMP. The polymer film is essentially amorphous. Curve 5(b) is a Wide Angle X-Ray Scattering spectrum for a polyaniline base film that has been stretch-oriented ($l/l_0=3.7$). This film was derived from a gel. Curve 5(c) is a Wide Angle X-Ray Scattering spectrum for a polyaniline base film containing 10% of poly-co-dimethyl propylamine siloxane. This film is highly crystalline.

Fig. 6 is a Schematic diagram of a polycrystalline material as taught in present invention having crystalline regions (outlined in dotted rectangles) with interstitial amorphous regions

Fig.7 is a Dynamic Mechanical Thermal Analysis (DMTA) plot for polyaniline base film cast from NMP. (First Thermal Scan; under Nitrogen).

Fig. 8 is a DMTA plot which represents the second thermal scan for a polyaniline base film cast from NMP; This same film was previously scanned as shown in Fig.7. Film Contains no residual solvent.

Fig. 9 is a DMTA plot for polyaniline base film cast from NMP and containing 5% poly-co-dimethyl aminopropyl siloxane (5% N content). First Thermal Scan.

Fig. 10 is a DMTA plot for polyaniline base film cast from NMP and containing 5% poly-co-dimethyl aminopropyl siloxane (5% N content). Second Thermal Scan (this same film was previously scanned as shown in Fig. 9) Film Contains no residual solvent.

Fig. 11 is a GPC for a polyaniline base solution in NMP containing 5% poly-co-dimethyl aminopropyl siloxane by weight to polyaniline. The polyaniline was .1% in NMP.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The present invention is directed toward electrically conducting polymer precursors and conducting polymers having adjustable morphology and in turn adjustable physical, mechanical, and electrical properties. The present invention is also directed toward controlling and enhancing the 3-dimensional order or crystallinity of conducting polymer precursors and of conducting polymers. In addition, the present invention is directed towards enhancing the electrical conductivity of conducting polymers. This is done by forming an admixture of an electrically conducting polymer precursor or an electrically conducting polymer with an additive whereby the additive provides local mobility to the molecules so as to allow the conducting polymer precursor or conducting polymer chains to associate with one another and achieve a highly crystalline state. An example of such an additive is a plasticizer. A plasticizer is a substance which when added to a polymer, solvates the polymer and increases its flexibility, deformability, generally decreases the glass transition temperature T_g , and generally reduces the tensile modulus. In certain cases, the addition of a plasticizer may induce antiplasticization, that is an increase in the modulus or stiffness of the polymer, an increase in T_g . Herein the additives can provide a plasticization effect, an antiplasticization effect or both effects.

Examples of polymers which can be used to practice the present invention are of substituted and unsubstituted homopolymers and copolymers of aniline, thiophene, pyrrole, p-phenylene sulfide, azines, selenophenes, furans, thianaphthenes, phenylene vinylene, etc. and the substituted and unsubstituted polymers, polyparaphenylenes, polyparaphenylenevinylenes, polyanilines, polyazines, polythiophenes, poly-p-phenylene sulfides, polyfuranes, polypyrroles, polythianaphthenes, polyselenophenes, polyacetylenes formed from soluble precursors and combinations thereof and copolymers of monomers thereof. The general formula for these polymers can be found in U.S. Patent 5,198,153 to Angelopoulos et al. While the present

invention will be described with reference to a preferred embodiment, it is not limited thereto. It will be readily apparent to a person of skill in the art how to extend the teaching herein to other embodiments. One type of polymer which is useful to practice the present invention is a substituted or unsubstituted polyaniline or copolymers of polyaniline having general formula shown in Fig. 1 wherein each R can be H or any organic or inorganic radical; each R can be the same or different; wherein each R¹ can be H or any organic or inorganic radical, each R¹ can be the same or different; $x \geq 1$; preferable $x \geq 2$ and y has a value from 0 to 1. Examples of organic radicals are alkyl or aryl radicals. Examples of inorganic radicals are Si and Ge. This list is exemplary only and not limiting. The most preferred embodiment is emeraldine base form of the polyaniline wherein y has a value of approximately 0.5. The base form is the non-doped form of the polymer. The non-doped form of polyaniline and the non-doped form of the other conducting polymers is herein referred to as the electrically conducting polymer precursor.

In Fig. 2, polyaniline is shown doped with a dopant. In this form, the polymer is in the conducting form. If the polyaniline base is exposed to cationic species QA, the nitrogen atoms of the imine (electron rich) part of the polymer becomes substituted with the Q⁺ cation to form an emeraldine salt as shown in Fig. 2. Q⁺ can be selected from H⁺ and organic or inorganic cations, for example, an alkyl group or a metal.

QA can be a protic acid where Q is hydrogen. When a protic acid, HA, is used to dope the polyaniline, the nitrogen atoms of the imine part of the polyaniline are protonated. The emeraldine base form is greatly stabilized by resonance effects. The charges distribute through the nitrogen atoms and aromatic rings making the imine and amine nitrogens indistinguishable. The actual structure of the doped form is a delocalized polysemiquinone radical cation as shown in Fig. 3.

The emeraldine base form of polyaniline is soluble in various organic solvents and in various aqueous acid solutions. Examples of organic solvents are dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO), dimethylformamide (DMF) and N-methylpyrrolidinone (NMP), dimethylene propylene urea, tetramethyl urea, pyridine, toluene, xylene, m-cresol, phenol, dimethylacetamide, n-cyclohexylpyrrolidinone, aqueous acetic acid, aqueous formic acid, pyrrolidinone, N1N' dimethyl propylene urea (DMPU), benzyl alcohol and water, etc.

This list is exemplary only and not limiting. Examples of aqueous acid solutions is 80% acetic acid and 60-88% formic acid. This list is exemplary only and not limiting.

Polyaniline base is generally processed by dissolving the polymer in NMP. These solutions exhibit a bimodal or trimodal distribution in Gel Permeation Chromatography (GPC) as a result of aggregation induced by internal hydrogen bonding between chains as previously described in U.S. patent application serial no. 08/370,128, filed on January 9, 1995, the teaching of which is incorporated herein by reference. The GPC curve for typical polyaniline base in NMP is shown in Figure 4.

Polymers in general can be amorphous, crystalline, or partly crystalline. In the latter case, the polymer consists of crystalline phases and amorphous phases. The morphology of a polymer is very important in determining the polymer's physical, mechanical, and electronic properties.

Polyaniline base films processed from NMP either by spin-coating or by solution casting techniques are amorphous as can be seen in Figure 5a which depicts the Wide Angle X-Ray Scattering (WAXS) spectrum for this material. Amorphous diffuse scattering is observed. Some crystallinity is induced in these films by post processing mechanical deformation especially if these films are derived from gels as described by A.G. MacDiarmid et al in Synth.

Met. 55-57, 753 (1993). WAXS of a stretch oriented film having been stretched ($l/l_0=3.7X$) derived from a gel is shown in Figure 5b. Some crystallinity has been induced as compared to the non-stretch oriented films as evidenced by the defined scattering peaks.

Doping the amorphous polyaniline base films (those having structure shown in Figure 5a) with aqueous hydrochloric acid results in isotropic conductivity of 1 S/cm. Such films are not crystalline. Similar doping of stretch oriented films results in anisotropic conductivity where conductivity on the order of 10^2 S/cm is measured parallel to the stretch direction whereas conductivity on the order of 10^0 S/cm is measured perpendicular to the stretch direction. It should also be noted that some level of crystallinity is lost during the doping process in these films.

According to the present invention, the interchain (polymer chain) registration is increased as compared to a stretch oriented film.

Figures 7 and 8 show the dynamic mechanical thermal analysis (DMTA) spectrum for a polyaniline base film processed from NMP alone. Figure 7 is the first scan where a T_g of approx. 118 is observed as a result of the residual NMP which is present in the film. Figure 8 is the second thermal scan of the same film. This film has no residual solvent and a T_g of ≈ 251 °C is measured for the polyaniline base polymer.

When an additive such as a plasticizer, such as a poly-co-dimethyl propylamine siloxane, is added to the polyaniline base completely different properties and morphology is observed. The siloxane has a polar amine group which facilitates the miscibility of the polyaniline base and the plasticizer. The DMTA of a polyaniline base film cast from NMP and containing 5% by weight to polyaniline of the poly-co-dimethyl propyl amine siloxane exhibits a lower T_g on the

first thermal scan as compared to polyaniline base processed from NMP alone (Figure 9) as a result of plasticization induced by the siloxane. However, on the second thermal scan of this film (Figure 10), the polymer exhibits an increase in T_g as compared to polyaniline processed from NMP. When the polysiloxane is added to a solution of polyaniline base, the siloxane due to the polar amine group can interact with the polymer chains and disrupt some of the polyaniline interactions with itself or some of the aggregation. Thus, the polysiloxane first induces some deaggregation. However, the polysiloxane has multiple amine sites and thus, it can itself hydrogen bond with multiple polyaniline base chains and thus, the polysiloxane facilitates the formation of a cross-linked network. This cross-linked network accounts for the increased T_g observed in the DMTA. T_g is characteristic of the amorphous regions of a polymer and in this case the amorphous regions consist of a cross-linked polyaniline/polysiloxane network. Thus, the polysiloxane is inducing an antiplasticization effect in polyaniline base as the T_g is increased. Generally, plasticizers reduce T_g. GPC data (Figure 11) is consistent with this model. The addition of the poly-amino containing siloxane to a polyaniline base solution in NMP results in a significant increase in the high molecular weight fractions depicting the cross-linked network which forms between polyaniline and the plasticizer.

In addition to the cross-linked network the siloxane induces in the amorphous regions, concomitantly it also is found to induce significant levels of crystallinity in polyaniline base as a result of the local mobility that it provides. Figure 5c shows the WAXS for a polyaniline base film processed from NMP containing 10% of the poly amino containing siloxane. As can be seen highly crystalline polyaniline has been attained. Much higher levels of crystallinity as compared to figure 5b for the stretch oriented films.

Thus polyaniline by the addition of the siloxane forms a structure depicted in Figure 6 where crystalline regions of highly associated polyaniline chains (outlined by a rectangle) are formed with interstitial amorphous regions. In most cases, the additive resides in the amorphous interstitial sites. The degree of crystallinity (number of crystalline sites) and the size of the crystalline domains as well as the degree of amorphous regions and the nature of the amorphous region (aggregated, i.e. cross-linked or not) can be tuned by the type and amount of additive. In turn, by controlling the above, the properties of the material can also be controlled.

With the poly -co-dimethyl aminopropyl siloxane (5% N content), loadings ranging from .001 to 20 % by weight gives highly crystalline polyaniline. The highly crystalline polyaniline in turn exhibits increased modulus, stiffness, yield and tensile strengths, hardness, density and softening points. Thus, the siloxane at these loadings is having an antiplasticization effect. Above 20% loading, the crystallinity begins to decrease. As the crystallinity decreases, the modulus, stiffness, yield and tensile strengths, hardness, density and softening points begin to decrease. Thus, the siloxane at these loadings begins to have a plasticization effect. The siloxane content becomes high enough that it disrupts the polyaniline base interactions in the crystalline regions. With the poly co dimethyl aminopropyl siloxanes having .5 and 13% N ratios, similar trends are observed but the particular amount of siloxane needed to have a plasticization effect or an antiplasticization effect varies. Thus, the degree of crystallinity and the degree of amorphous regions and in turn the properties of polyaniline can be tuned by the nature of the additive as well as the amount of additive. Indeed, using the same additive but simply changing the loading dramatically changes the morphology and in turn the properties of polyaniline.

The electronic properties of the polymer are also impacted. The conductivity of a polyaniline base film cast from NMP and containing 1% by weight poly-co-dimethyl aminopropyl siloxane

which is doped by aqueous hydrochloric acid is 50 S/cm as compared to 1 S/cm for a polyaniline film with no plasticizer. This is isotropic conductivity. The doped film containing the polysiloxane retains the highly crystalline structure.

The degree of crystallinity and the degree of amorphous regions and in turn the physical, mechanical, and electronic properties can be tuned by the particular additive used and by the amount of additive. For example, the Tg of polyaniline can be increased or decreased by the amount and type of additive. The mechanical properties such as tensile properties, modulus, impact resistance, etc. can be tuned as described above. The additive can range from .001 to 90% by weight, more preferably from .001 to 50% and most preferably from .001 to 25%. A list of plasticizers that can be used to practice the present invention is given in Table 1. The plasticizer can be small molecules, oligomeric or polymeric in nature as can be seen in Table 1. They can be monofunctional, bifunctional, and multifunctional. The additive can also be removed from the final film structure if so desired by appropriate extraction.

Specific Examples

Polyaniline Synthesis Polyaniline is synthesized by the oxidative polymerization of aniline using ammonium peroxydisulfate in aqueous hydrochloric acid. The polyaniline hydrochloride precipitates from solution. The polymer is then neutralized using aqueous ammonium hydroxide. The neutralized or non-dope polyaniline base is then filtered, washed and dried. Polyaniline can also be made by electrochemical oxidative polymerization as taught by W. Huang, B. Humphrey, and A.G. MacDiarmid, J. Chem. Soc., Faraday Trans. 1, 82, 2385, 1986.

Polyaniline Base in NMP: The polyaniline base powder is readily dissolved in NMP up to 5% solids. Thin films (on the order of a micron) can be formed by spin-coating. Thick films

are made by solution casting and drying (70 ° C in vacuum oven under a nitrogen purge for 15 hours). These solutions and films have the properties described above.

Polyaniline Base in NMP/Plasticizer

a. Polyaniline Base was first dissolved in NMP to 5% solids and allowed to mix well. A poly-co-dimethyl, aminopropyl siloxane (N content 5% relative to repeat unit) was dissolved to 5% in NMP. The siloxane solution was added to the polyaniline base solution. The resulting admixture was allowed to mix for 12 hours at room temperature. A number of solutions were made having from .001 % to 50% siloxane content (by weight relative to polyaniline). Thin films were spin-coated onto quartz substrates; Thick films were prepared by solution casting and baking the solutions at 70 °C in a vacuum oven under a Nitrogen purge for 15 hours). The solutions and the films have the properties described above.

b. The same experiment described in(a)was carried out except that the plasticizer was a poly-co-dimethyl, aminopropyl siloxane in which the N content was 13%.

c. The same experiment described in (a) was carried out except that the plasticizer was a poly-co-dimethyl, aminopropyl siloxane in which the N content was .5%.

d. The same experiment described in (a) was carried out except that the plasticizer was polyglycol diacid.

e. The same experiment described in (a) was carried out except that the plasticizer was 3,6,9-trioxaundecanedioic acid.

- f. The same experiment described in (a) was carried out except that the plasticizer was poly(ethylene glycol) tetrahydro furfuryl ether.
- g. The same experiment described in (a) was carried out except that the plasticizer was glycerol triacetate.
- h. The same experiment described on (a) was carried out except the plasticizer was epoxidized soy bean oil.

Polyaniline Base in NMP/m-Cresol/Plasticizer

The same experiment as described in (a) was carried out except that polyaniline base and the plasticizer was dissolved in NMP/m-Cresol mixtures in which m-Cresol ranged from 1 to 99%

Polyaniline Base in m-Cresol/Plasticizer

The same experiment as described in (a) was carried out except that the polyaniline base was dissolved in m-Cresol and the plasticizer was dissolved in m-Cresol.

Polyaniline Base in m-Cresol and in NMP/m-Cresol

Polyaniline Base was dissolved in m-Cresol and in NMP/m-Cresol combinations to 5% solids. The m-Cresol in the latter system being the additive ranged from 1 to 99%. Free-Standing films were made by solution casting techniques. With increasing m-cresol content, the polyaniline exhibited a WAXS similar to that shown in Figure 5a except that the amorphous scattering peak became somewhat sharper indicative of some crystallinity. However, this was significantly less than observed with the siloxane plasticizer.

Doped Polyanilines

1. Hydrochloric Acid and/or Methanesulfonic Acid Doped Films

Polyaniline base films made as described above were doped by aqueous acid solutions of hydrochloric or methanesulfonic acid. The films were immersed in the acid solution for 12 hours for thin films and 36 hours for the thick films. The conductivity of a polyaniline base film processed from NMP and doped with these acid solutions is 1 S/cm. The conductivity of a base film processed from NMP and 1 % poly-co- dimethyl, aminopropyl siloxane (5%N content) was 50 S/cm.

2.Sulfonic Acid Doped Polyanilines

Polyaniline Base was dissolved in a solvent such as NMP or NMP/m-Cresol combinations, etc. from 1 to 5% solids. To this solution was added a dopant such as camphorsulfonic acid or acrylamidopropanesulfonic acid (previously reported in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 595,853 filed on February 2, 1996). These solutions were used to spin-coat or solution cast films. In some experiments, the plasticizer such as the poly-co-dimethyl,aminopropyl siloxane in a solvent was added to the doped polyaniline solution. In certain other experiments, the plasticizer was first added to the pani base solution. The dopant was then added to the polyaniline solution containing the plasticizer.

The teaching of the following U.S. Patent Applications are incorporated herein by reference:

"CROSS-LINKED ELECTRICALLY CONDUCTIVE POLYMERS, PRECURSORS THEREOF AND APPLICATIONS THEREOF", Application Serial No. 595,853, filed February 2, 1996;

"METHODS OF FABRICATION OF CROSS-LINKED ELECTRICALLY CONDUCTIVE POLYMERS AND PRECURSORS THEREOF", Application Serial No. 594,680, filed February 2, 1996;

"DEAGGREGATED ELECTRICALLY CONDUCTIVE POLYMERS AND PRECURSORS THEREOF", Application Serial No. 370,127, filed January 9, 1995; and

"METHODS OF FABRICATION OF DEAGGREGATED ELECTRICALLY CONDUCTIVE POLYMERS AND PRECURSORS THEREOF", Application Serial No. 370,128, filed January 9, 1995.

While the present invention has been shown and described with respect to a preferred embodiment, it will be understood that numerous changes, modifications, and improvements will occur to those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

forming an admixture of a solvent, an additive and a polymer selected from the group consisting of a precursor to an electrically conductive polymer and an electrically conductive polymer said polymer being soluble in said solvent said polymer not being substantially soluble in said additive in the absence of said solvent;

said additive provides local mobility to said polymer to allow said polymer to associate with one another to achieve a crystalline state; and

removing or partly removing said solvent substantially leaving said additive therein as remaining additive, said remaining additive provides local mobility to said polymer to achieve said crystalline state.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said admixture is electrically conductive and has an isotropic electrical conductivity.
3. A method according to claim 1, wherein said additive is selected from the group consisting of plasticizers and diluents.
4. A method according to claim 1, wherein said additive is a plasticizer is selected from the group consisting of:

Adipic acid plasticizers	Sebacic acid plasticizers
Azelaic acid plasticizers	Stearic acid plasticizers
Benzoic acid plasticizers	Succinic acid plasticizers
Citric acid plasticizers	Sulfonic acid plasticizers
Dimer acid plasticizers	Terpentines
Epoxy plasticizers	Terpentine plasticizers
Fumaric acid plasticizers	Siloxanes
Glycerol plasticizers	Polysiloxanes
Isobutyrate plasticizers	Ethylene glycols
Lauric acid plasticizers	Polyethylene glycols
Linoleic acid plasticizers	Polyesters
Maleic acid plasticizers	Sucrose plasticizers
Mellitates	Tartaric acid plasticizers
Myristic acid plasticizers	Trimellitic acid plasticizers
Oleic acid plasticizers	Glycol plasticizers
Palmitic acid plasticizers	Glycolates
Paraffin plasticizers	Hydrocarbons
Phosphoric acid plasticizers	Phosphonic acid plasticizers
Phthalic acid plasticizers	Polysilanes
Ricinoleic acid plasticizers	

5. A method according to claim 1, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of substituted and unsubstituted polyparaphenylene vinylenes, polyparaphenylenes, polyanilines, polythiophenes, polyazines, polyfuranes, polypyrroles, polyselenophenes, poly-p-phenylene sulfides, polyacetylenes formed from soluble

precursors, combinations thereof and blends thereof with other polymers and copolymers of the monomers thereof.

6. A method according to claim 1, wherein said solvent when removed or partly removed forms a film which is further stretch oriented.

7. A method comprising:

forming a combination of a first material, a second material and a solvent;

said first material is selected from the group consisting of a precursors to an electrically conductive polymer and an electrically conductive polymer;

said second material being soluble in said solvent, said second material not being substantially soluble in said first material in the absence of said solvent.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein said combination is electrically conductive and has a conductivity which is isotropic.
9. A method according to claim 7, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of substituted and unsubstituted polyparaphenylene vinylenes, polythianophthenes, polyparaphenylenes, polyanilines, polythiophenes, polyazines, polyfuranes, polypyrroles, polyselenophenes, poly-p-phenylene sulfides, polyacetylenes formed from soluble precursors, combinations thereof and blends thereof with other polymers and copolymers of the monomers thereof.

10. A method according to claim 7, wherein said plasticizer is selected from the group consisting of:

Adipic acid plasticizers	Sebacic acid plasticizers
Azelaic acid plasticizers	Stearic acid plasticizers
Benzoic acid plasticizers	Succinic acid plasticizers
Citric acid plasticizers	Sulfonic acid plasticizers
Dimer acid plasticizers	Terpentines
Epoxy plasticizers	Terpentine plasticizers
Fumaric acid plasticizers	Siloxanes
Glycerol plasticizers	Polysiloxanes
Isobutyrate plasticizers	Ethylene glycols
Lauric acid plasticizers	Polyethylene glycols
Linoleic acid plasticizers	Polyesters
Maleic acid plasticizers	Sucrose plasticizers
Mellitates	Tartaric acid plasticizers
Myristic acid plasticizers	Trimellitic acid plasticizers
Oleic acid plasticizers	Glycol plasticizers
Palmitic acid plasticizers	Glycolates
Paraffin plasticizers	Hydrocarbons
Phosphoric acid plasticizers	Phosphonic acid plasticizers
Phthalic acid plasticizers	Polysilanes
Ricinoleic acid plasticizers	

11. A method comprising forming a polyaniline material having at least one crystal grain, said material having isotropic electrical conductivity.

12. A method comprising:

providing solution of polymers in a solvent;

said polymers are selected from the group consisting of precursors to electrically conductive polymers and electrically conductive polymers;

providing mobility to said polymers to allow said polymers to associate with one another to achieve a crystalline state by adding a plasticizer to said solvent;

said plasticizer being soluble in said solvent, said plasticizer not being substantially soluble in said polymer in the absence of said solvent.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein said step of providing mobility is provided by adding an additive to said solution.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein said additive is selected from the group consisting of a plasticizer and a diluent.

15. A method according to claim 1, wherein said additive contains substituents which facilitates the miscibility of said polymer and said additive.

16. A method according to claim 1, wherein said additive disrupts aggregation of said polymer.

17. A method comprising:

an admixture of polyaniline base, N-methyl pyrrolidinone and a plasticizer;

said plasticizer content is from about 0.001% to about 90% by weight of said admixture;

said plasticizer is selected from the group consisting of poly-co-dimethyl aminopropyl siloxane, polyglycol diacid, 3,6,9-trioxeundecaedioic acid and poly (ethylene glycol) tetrahydro furfuryo ether, glycerol triacetate and epoxidized soy bean oil.

18. A method according to claim 17 further including adding a dopant.
19. A method according to claim 18, wherein said admixture further includes m-cresol.
20. A method according to claim 1, wherein said additive deaggregates said polymer.
21. A method according to claim 1, wherein said additive cross-links said polymer.
22. A method according to claim 1, wherein said solvent is extracted from said admixture by a technique selected from the group consisting of solvent extraction and evaporation.
23. A method according to claim 1, wherein said additive is first added to a solvent and thereafter an electrically conducting polyaniline is added which becomes neutralized upon addition to said admixture.
24. A method according to claim 1, wherein said admixture contains a polyaniline monomer, said additive and an oxidant.

25. A method according to claim 1, wherein said additive includes a plasticization effect.

26. A method according to claim 1, wherein said additive induces an antiplasticization effect.

27. A method comprising:

forming an admixture of a solvent, an additive and a polymer selected from the group consisting of a precursor to an electrically conductive polymer and an electrically conductive polymer;

said additive provides local mobility to said polymer;

said additive is selected from the group consisting of one or more:

Adipic acid plasticizers

Sebacic acid plasticizers

Azelaic acid plasticizers

Stearic acid plasticizers

Benzoic acid plasticizers

Succinic acid plasticizers

Citric acid plasticizers

Sulfonic acid plasticizers

Dimer acid plasticizers

Terpentines

Epoxy plasticizers

Terpentine plasticizers

Fumaric acid plasticizers

Siloxanes

Glycerol plasticizers

Polysiloxanes

Isobutyrate plasticizers

Ethylene glycols

Isophthalic acid plasticizers

Polyethylene glycols

Lauric acid plasticizers

Polyesters

Linoleic acid plasticizers

Maleic acid plasticizers

Mellitates

Myristic acid plasticizers

Oleic acid plasticizers

Palmitic acid plasticizers

Paraffin plasticizers

Phosphoric acid plasticizers

Phthalic acid plasticizers

Ricinoleic acid plasticizers

Sucrose plasticizers

Tartaric acid plasticizers

Terephthalic acid plasticizers

Trimellitic acid plasticizers

Glycol plasticizers

Glycolates

Hydrocarbons

Phosphonic acid plasticizers

Polysilanes

said solvent is selected from the group consisting of one or more of:

N-methyl pyrrolidinone

dimethyl sulfoxide

dimethyl formamide

pyridine

toluene

xylene

m-cresol

phenol

dimethylacetamide

tetramethylurea

n-cyclohexylpyrrolidinone

aqueous acetic acid

aqueous formic acid

pyrrolidinone

N1N' dimethyl propylene urea (DMPU)

benzyl alcohol

water

dimethylene propylene urea

28. A method comprising:

forming a combination of a first material and a second material;

said second material is a polymer selected from the group consisting of a precursor to an electrically conductive polymer and an electrically conductive polymer;

said second material is selected from the group consisting of:

Adipic acid plasticizers

Azelaic acid plasticizers

Benzoic acid plasticizers

Citric acid plasticizers

Dimer acid plasticizers

Epoxy plasticizers

Fumaric acid plasticizers

Glycerol plasticizers

Isobutyrate plasticizers

Isophthalic acid plasticizers

Lauric acid plasticizers

Sebacic acid plasticizers

Stearic acid plasticizers

Succinic acid plasticizers

Sulfonic acid plasticizers

Terpentines

Terpentine plasticizers

Siloxanes

Polysiloxanes

Ethylene glycols

Polyethylene glycols

Polyesters

Linoleic acid plasticizers

Maleic acid plasticizers

Mellitates

Myristic acid plasticizers

Oleic acid plasticizers

Palmitic acid plasticizers

Paraffin plasticizers

Phosphoric acid plasticizers

Phthalic acid plasticizers

Ricinoleic acid plasticizers

Sucrose plasticizers

Tartaric acid plasticizers

Terephthalic acid plasticizers

Trimellitic acid plasticizers

Glycol plasticizers

Glycolates

Hydrocarbons

Phosphonic acid plasticizers

Polysilanes

said solvent is selected from the group consisting of one or more of:

N-methyl pyrrolidinone

dimethyl sulfoxide

dimethyl formamide pyridine

toluene

xylene

m-cresol

phenol

dimethylacetamide

tetramethylurea

n-cyclohexylpyrrolidinone

aqueous acetic acid

aqueous formic acid

pyrrolidinone

N1N' dimethyl propylene urea (DMPU)

benzyl alcohol

water

dimethylene propylene urea

29. A method comprising:

providing solution of polymers in a solvent; said polymers are selected from the group consisting of precursors to electrically conductive polymers and electrically conductive polymers;

providing mobility to said polymers to allow said polymers to associate with one another to achieve a crystalline state;

said mobility provided by adding to said polymers a plasticizer selected from the group consisting of one or more of:

Adipic acid plasticizers

Azelaic acid plasticizers

Benzoic acid plasticizers

Citric acid plasticizers

Dimer acid plasticizers

Epoxy plasticizers

Fumaric acid plasticizers

Glycerol plasticizers

Isobutyrate plasticizers

Sebacic acid plasticizers

Stearic acid plasticizers

Succinic acid plasticizers

Sulfonic acid plasticizers

Terpentines

Terpentine plasticizers

Siloxanes

Polysiloxanes

Ethylene glycols

Isophthalic acid plasticizers

Lauric acid plasticizers

Linoleic acid plasticizers

Maleic acid plasticizers

Mellitates

Myristic acid plasticizers

Oleic acid plasticizers

Palmitic acid plasticizers

Paraffin plasticizers

Phosphoric acid plasticizers

Phthalic acid plasticizers

Ricinoleic acid plasticizers

Polyethylene glycols

Polyesters

Sucrose plasticizers

Tartaric acid plasticizers

Terephthalic acid plasticizers

Trimellitic acid plasticizers

Glycol plasticizers

Glycolates

Hydrocarbons

Phosphonic acid plasticizers

Polysilanes

said solvent is selected from the group consisting of one or more of:

N-methyl pyrrolidinone

dimethyl sulfoxide

dimethyl formamide

pyridine

toluene

xylene

m-cresol

phenol

dimethylacetamide

tetramethylurea

n-cyclohexylpyrrolidinone

aqueous acetic acid

aqueous formic acid

pyrrolidinone

N1N' dimethyl propylene urea (DMPU)

benzyl alcohol

water

dimethylene propylene urea

30. A method according to claim 27 wherein said additive can range from about 0.001 to about 90% by weight of said admixture.
31. A method according to claim 27 wherein said additive can range from about 0.001 to about 50% by weight of said admixture.
32. A method according to claim 27 wherein said additive can range from about 0.001 to about 25% by weight of said admixture.
33. A method according to claim 28 wherein said second material can range from about 0.001 to about 90% by weight of said combination.
34. A method according to claim 28 wherein said second material can range from about 0.001 to about 50% by weight of said combination.
35. A method according to claim 28 wherein said second material can range from about 0.001 to about 25% by weight of said combination.

36. A method according to claim 29 wherein said plasticizer can range from about 0.001 to about 90% by weight of said combination.
37. A method according to claim 29 wherein said plasticizer can range from about 0.001 to about 50% by weight of said combination.
38. A method according to claim 29 wherein said plasticizer can range from about 0.001 to about 25% by weight of said combination.
39. A method according to claim 27 wherein said additive allows said polymer to associate with one another to achieve a crystalline state.
40. A method according to claim 1 wherein said additive is an oxidant.
41. A method according to claim 7 wherein said material is an oxidant.
42. A method according to claim 12 wherein said plasticizer is an oxidant.
43. A method according to claim 27 wherein said additive is an oxidant.
44. A method according to claim 28 wherein said second material is an oxidant.
45. A method according to claim 29 wherein said plasticizer is an oxidant.

**METHODS OF FABRICATING PLASTICIZED, ANTIPLASTICIZED AND
CRYSTALLINE CONDUCTING POLYMERS AND PRECURSORS THEREOF**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Methods of forming materials containing precursors to electrically conductive polymers and electrically conductive polymers are described which have a high degree of crystallinity. The high degree of crystallinity is achieved by preparing the materials under conditions which provide a high degree of mobility to the polymer molecules permitting them to associate with one another to form a crystalline state. High levels of electrical conductivity are achieved in the electrically conductive materials without stretch orienting the material. The enhanced electrical conductivity is isotropic as compared to a stretch oriented film which has isotropic electrical conductivity. In the preferred embodiment, additives are added to a solution containing a solvent and the precursor or electrically conductive polymer. The additives are preferably plasticizer or diluents. As the solvent is removed the material dries and contains a higher degree of crystallinity than in the absence of the additive.

FIG.1

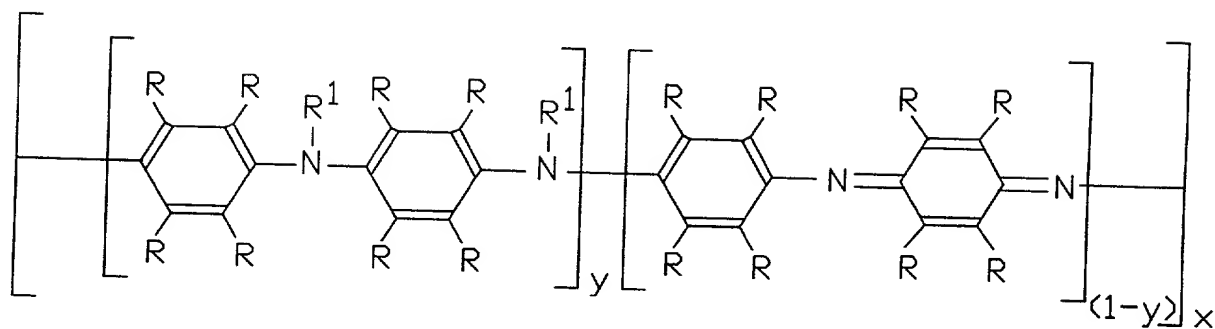


FIG.2

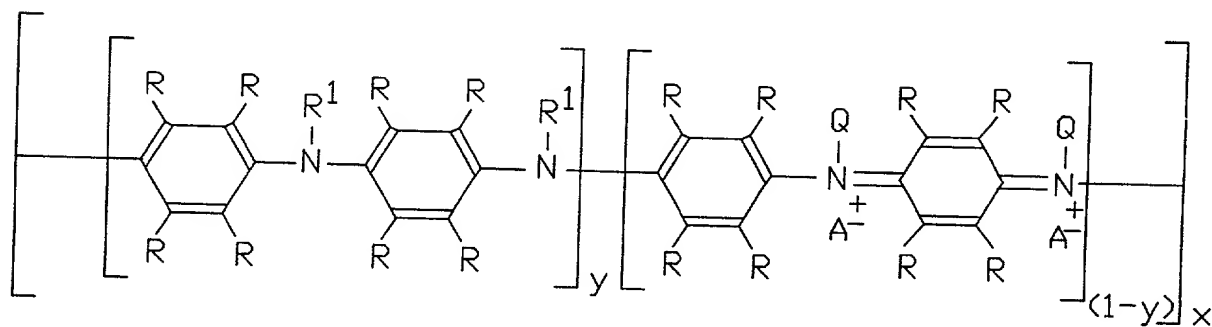
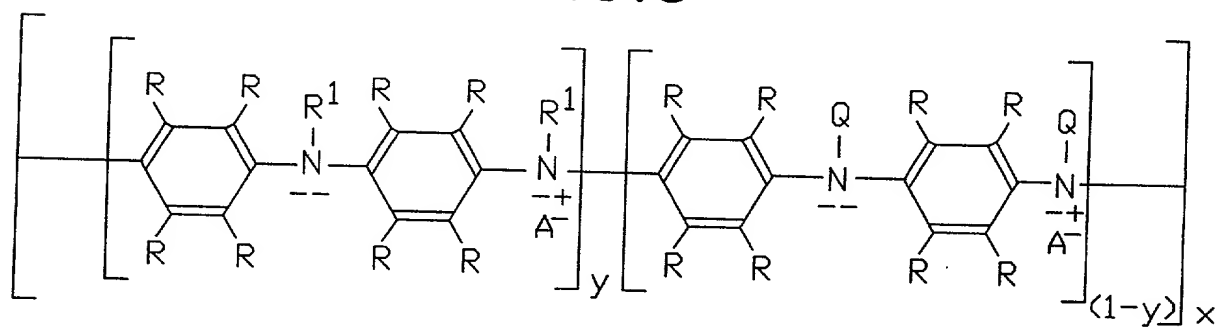


FIG.3



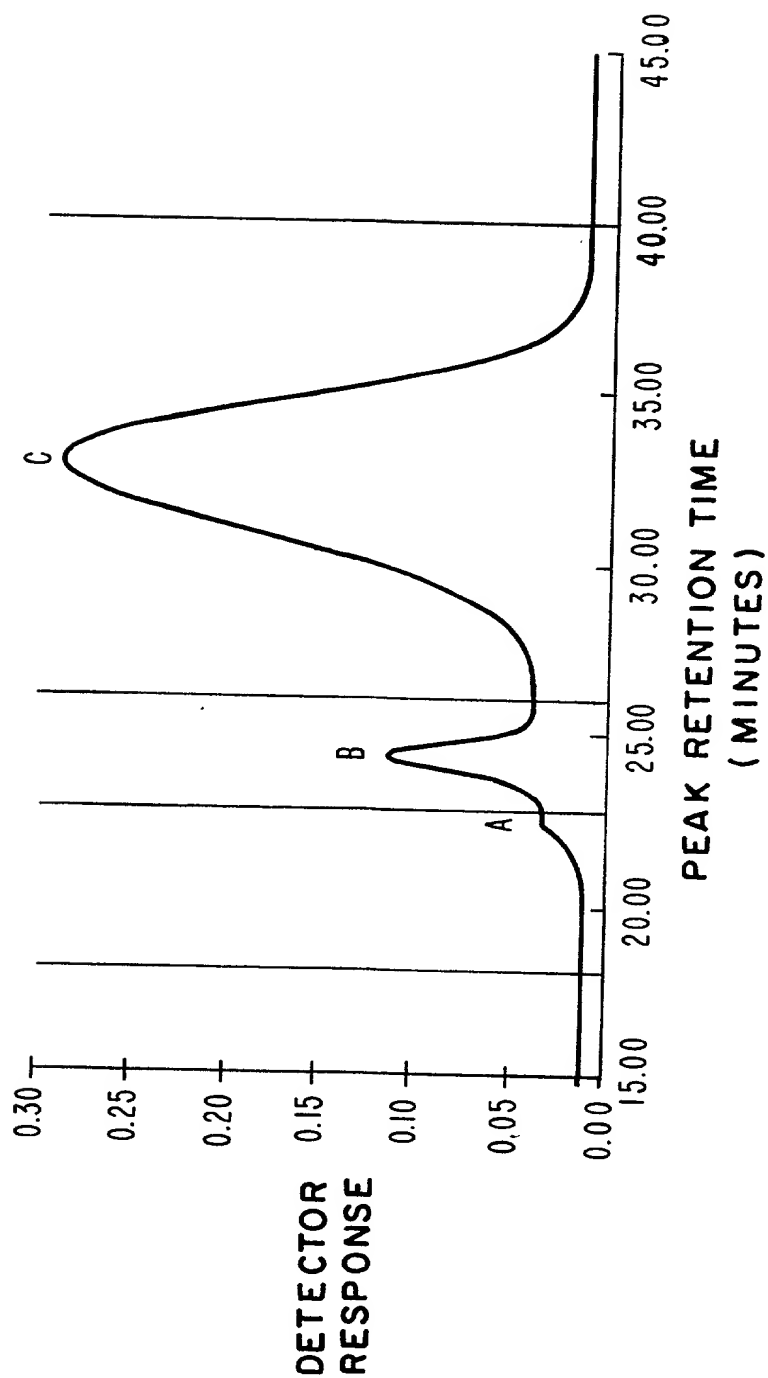


FIG. 4

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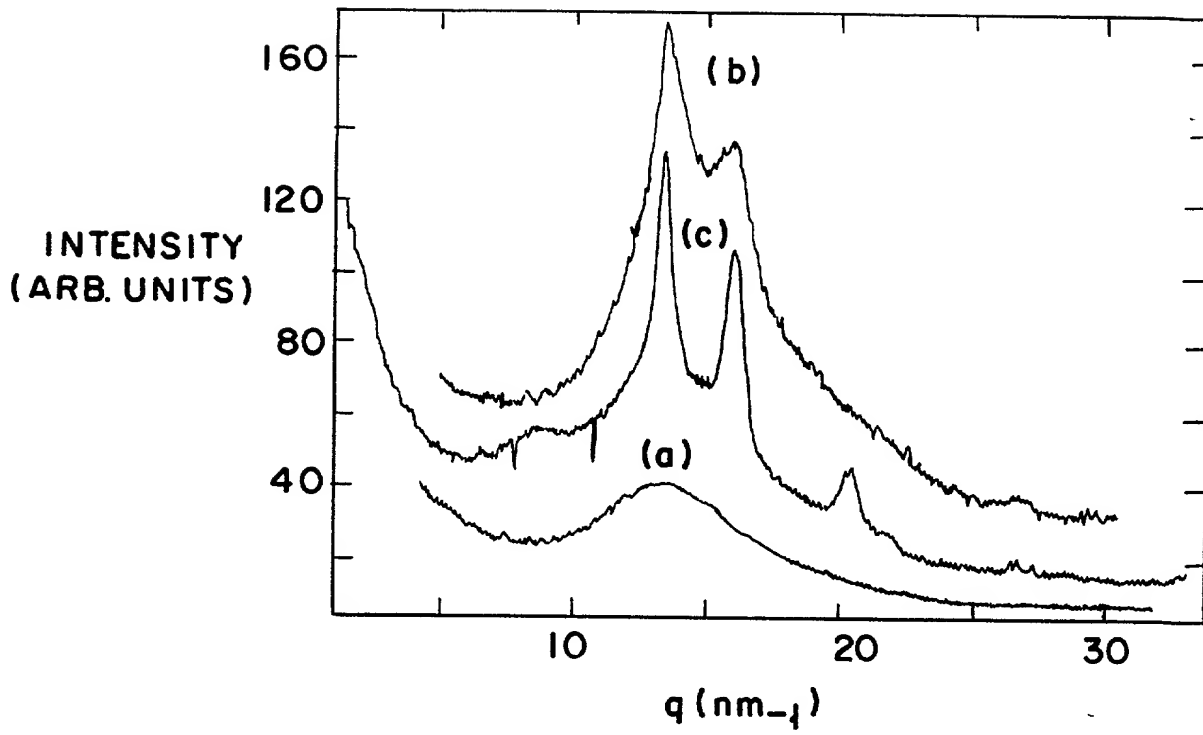


FIG. 5

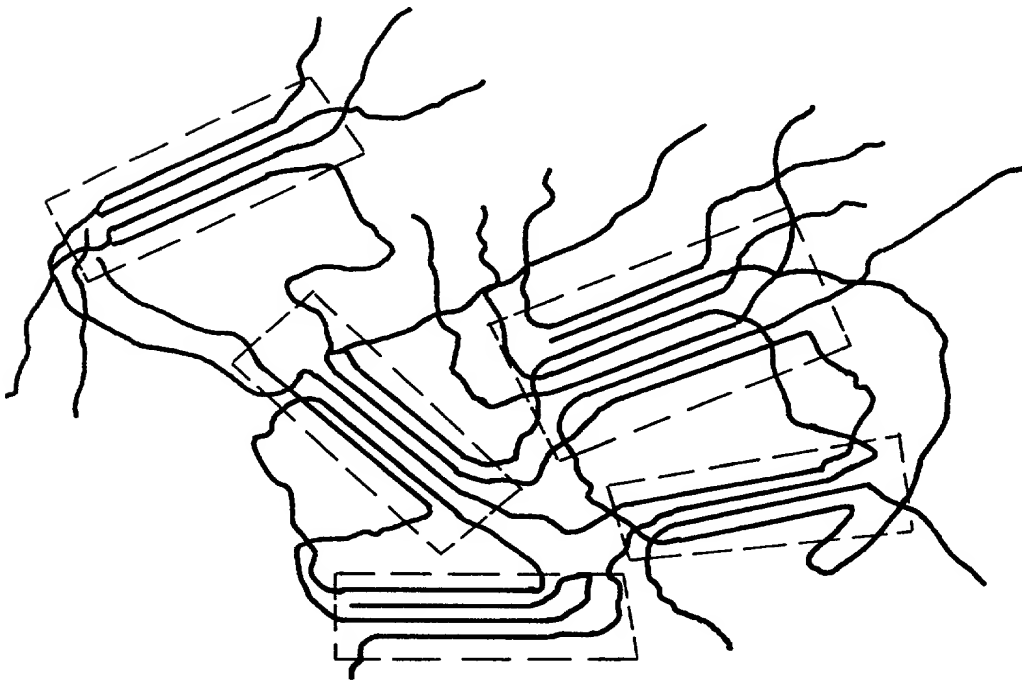


FIG. 6

0034553 070399 662070 666460

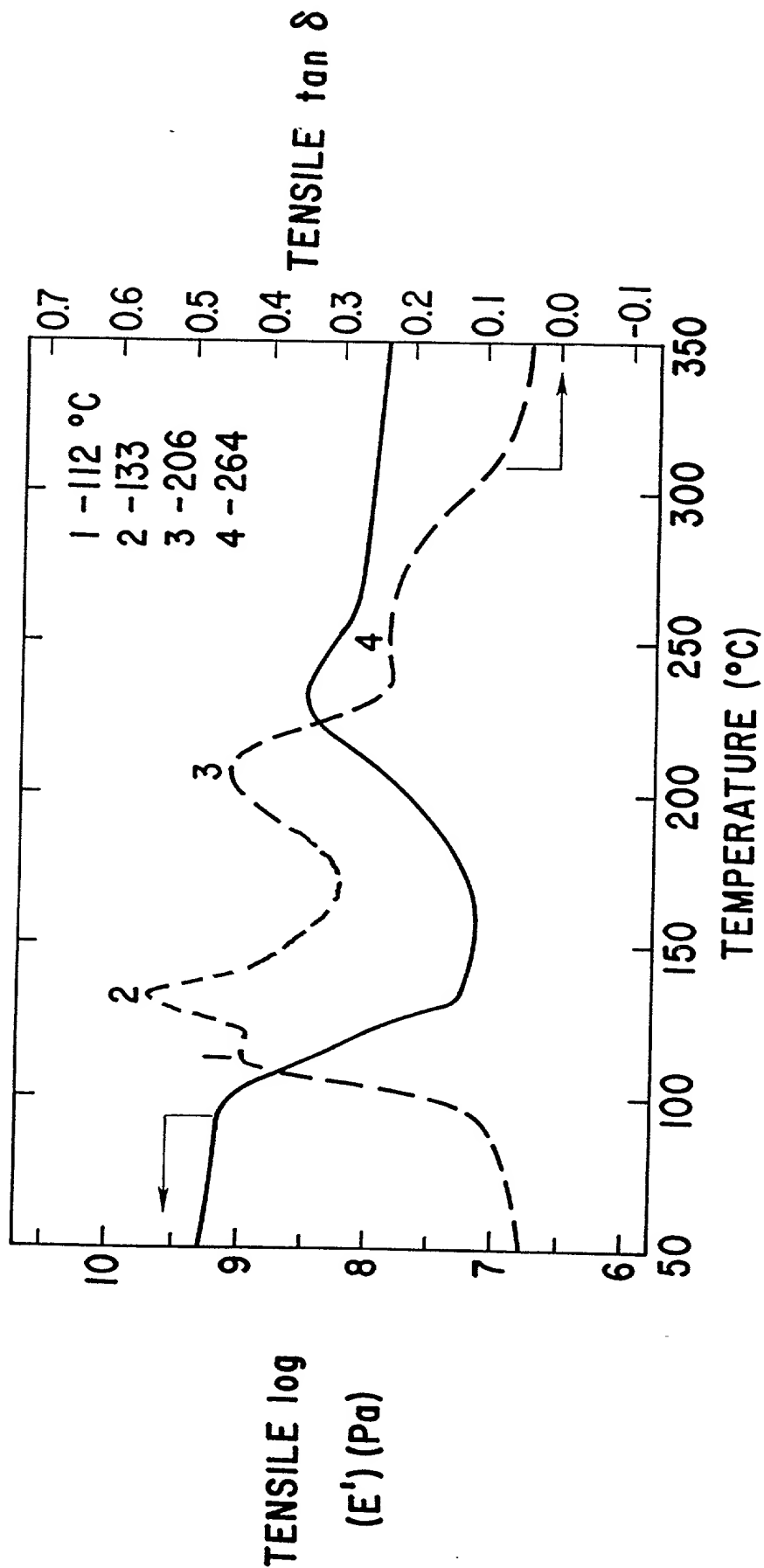


FIG. 7

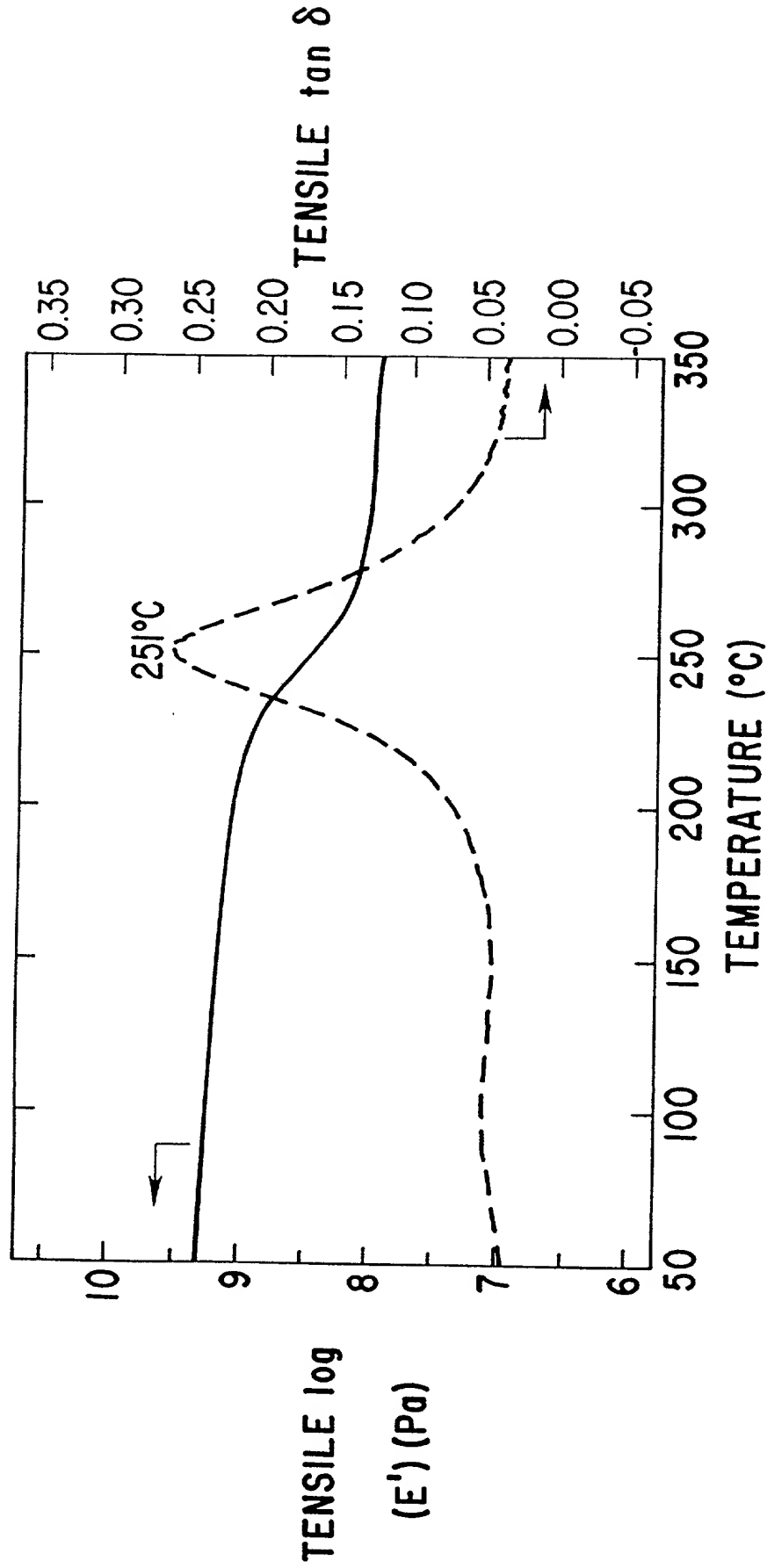


FIG. 8

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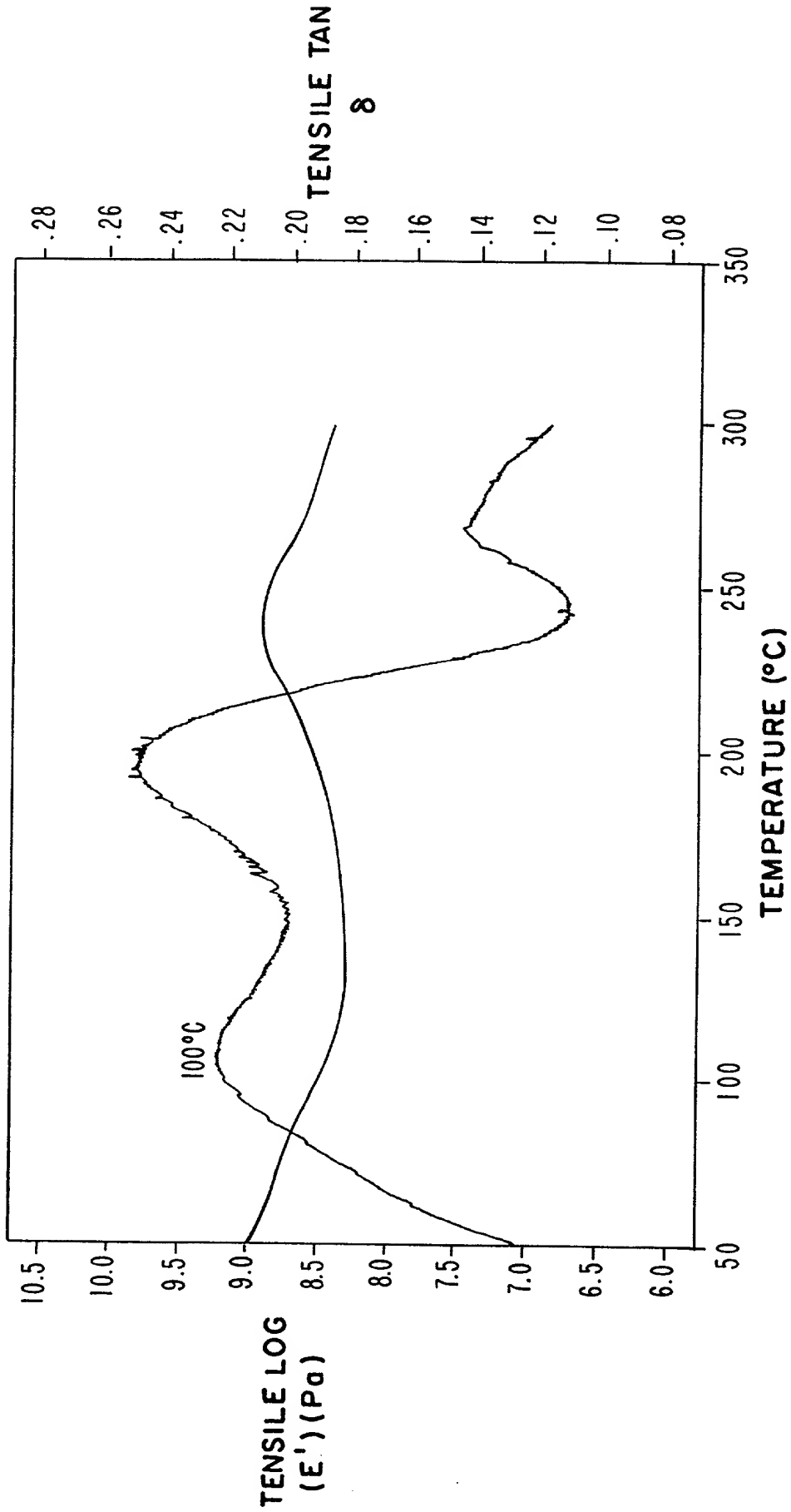


FIG. 9

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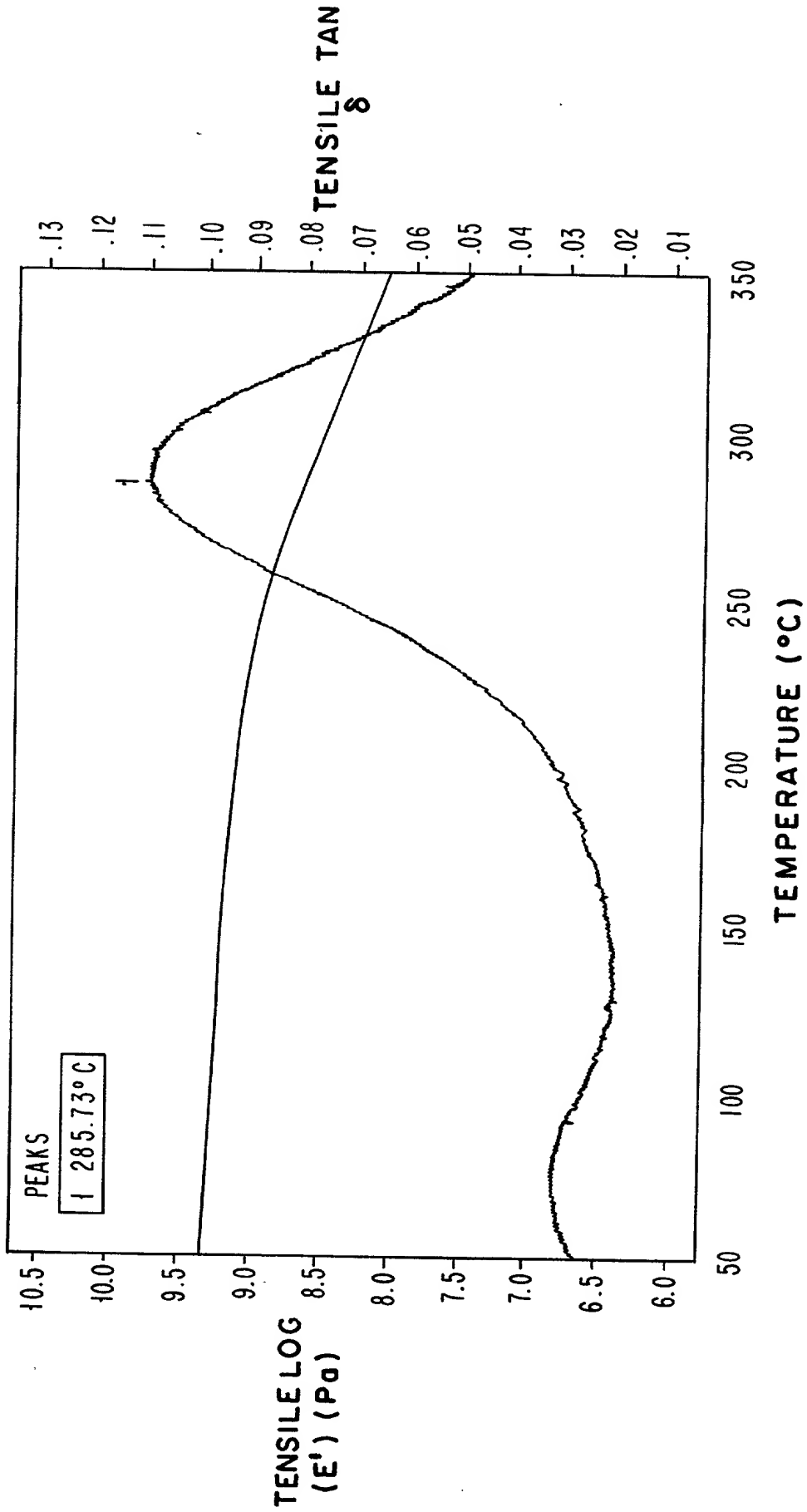


FIG. 10

662020" 999460

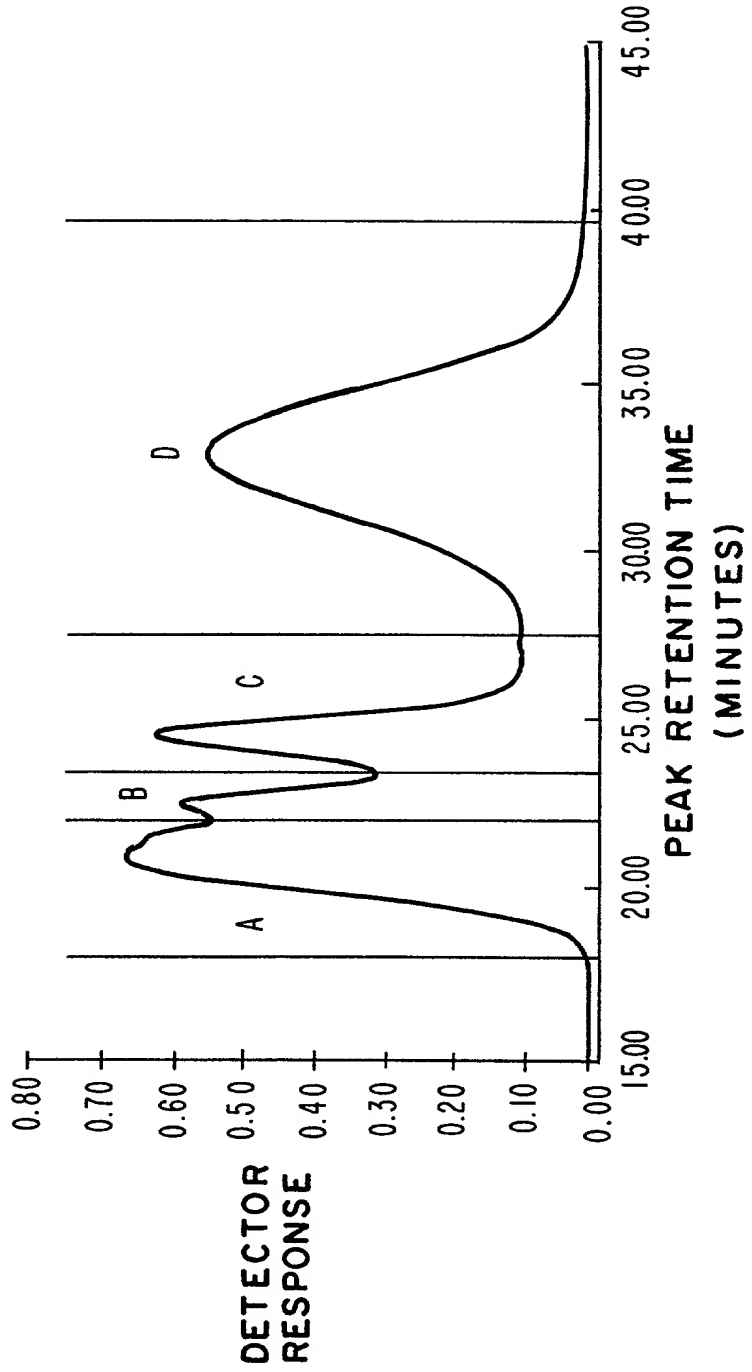


FIG. 11

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

METHODS OF FABRICATING PLASTICIZED, ANTIPLASTICIZED AND CRYSTALLINE CONDUCTING POLYMERS AND PRECURSORS THEREOF

the specification of which (check one)

 is attached hereto. was filed on asApplication Serial No. and was amended on
(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Claimed	
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	<u> </u> Yes	<u> </u> No
<u>60/007,668</u>	<u>November 29, 1995</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u> Yes	<u> </u> No
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u> Yes	<u> </u> No
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u> Yes	<u> </u> No

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

<u>60/007,668</u>	<u>November 29, 1995</u>
(Application Number)	(Filing Date)

<u> </u>	<u> </u>
(Application Number)	(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States Application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of the application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to the patentability of this application as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application;

<u>08/620,631</u>	<u>March 22, 1996</u>	<u>Pending</u>
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith (list name and registration number).

Manny W. Schecter (Reg. 31,722), Terry J. Ilardi (Reg. 29,936), Christopher A. Hughes (Reg. 26,914), Edward A. Pennington (Reg. 32,588), John E. Hoel (Reg. 26,279), Joseph C. Redmond, Jr. (Reg. 18,753), Kevin M. Jordan (Reg. 40,277), Stephen C. Kaufman (Reg. 29,551), Jay. P. Sbrollini (Reg. 36,266), David M. Shofi (Reg. 39,835), Robert M. Trepp (Reg. 25,933), Louis P. Herzberg (Reg. 41,500), and Douglas W. Cameron (Reg. 31,596), Paul Otterstedt (Reg. 37,411), Louis J. Percello (Reg. 33,206) and Daniel P. Morris (Reg. 32,053).

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EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EL295374448US
DATE OF DEPOSIT: JULY 2, 1999

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

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Inventor's signature

Date

Residence

Citizenship

Post Office Address

Full name of fifth joint inventor, if any

Inventor's Signature

Date

Residence

Citizenship

Post Office Address

Full name of sixth joint-inventor, if any

Inventor's signature

Date

Residence

Citizenship

Post Office Address